A REVISION OF THE AUSTRALIAN TROMBIDIDAE (ACARINA)

BY H. WOMERSLEY, F.R.E.S., A.L.S., ENTOMOLOGIST, SOUTH AUSTRALIAN MUSEUM.

Fig. 1-3.

RECENTLY Dr. Sig Thor (Zool. Anz., 1935, ex, pp. 107-112) has divided the family *Trombididae* into ten subfamilies. In this paper therefore I propose to revise our knowledge of the Australian forms in the light of Sig Thor's studies.

Subfamily I, TROMBELLINAE Sig Thor, 1935.

Body elongate, abdomen rectangular. Cuticle strong, tuberculate; hairs eiliated or simple, short and pointed; the two pseudostigmal hairs placed close together in the middle of the thorax on one or two prominences between the two pairs of stalked or sessile paired eyes. Fourth segment of palp with various spines or hairs; fifth segment long.

In this subfamily Sig Thor places only the typical genus Trombella Berl. 1887. In a subsequent paper (Zool, Anz. 1936, exiv, pp. 29-32), however, he puts the genera Chyzeria Canest. 1897 and Parachyzeria Hirst 1926, both of which he omitted from the earlier paper, in the subfamily Microtrombidiinae. According to his subfamily diagnosis, both the above genera seem to me to be more closely related to Trombella and should, I believe, he grouped with that genus in the Trombellinae, rather than in the Microtrombidiinae. Such inclusion, however, does necessitate a slight alteration in the diagnosis of the Trombellinae. In both Chyzeria and Parachyzeria the crista is absent and the pseudostigual hairs are placed close together on a single prominence, while the paired eyes are on long peduncles and not sessile. The above characteristics are included in the diagnosis of the subfamily as given above.

The three genera here included in the subfamily may be keyed as follows:

2. Body with 4 lateral abdominal processes on each side. Dorsum posteriorly with simple sinuate hairs, overlying which are long ciliated hairs.

Gen. Chyzeria Canestrini 1897.

Body without above processes. Dorsum anteriorly with four brushes of very long ciliated hairs, underlying which posteriorly are the simple sinuate hairs as in *Chyzeria* Gen. *Parachyzeria* Hirst. 1926 (not Australian).

Genus Trombella Berlese, 1887.

The only known Australian species is *Trombella warregensis* Hirst 1929, which is recorded from New South Wales and South Australia.

Genus Chyzeria Canestrini, 1897.

This genus is widely distributed in Australia and also occurs in New Zealand. The following forms have been described and have been keyed in an earlier paper (Womersley 1934); C. australiense Hirst 1928; C. australiense v. musgravei Hirst 1929; C. a. var. occidentalis Hirst 1929; C. a. var. hirsti Wom. 1934; C. insulana Hirst 1929; C. montana Hirst 1929; C. armigera Hirst 1929.

Subfamily II, TANAUPODINAE Sig Thor, 1935.

Body moderately broad. Cuticle smooth or tuberculate; hairs pointed, short or long. Crista weak, without sensillary areas; the two pseudostigmal hairs placed near the crista in the middle of the thorax. The two pairs of sessile eyes sometimes absent. Palpi with few spines. Legs short, seldom long.

This subfamily is as yet unknown from Australia. It includes the following genera: Tanaupodus Haller 1882; Eothrombium Berlese 1910; Rhinothrombium Berlese 1910; Typhlothrombium Berlese 1910; Neotanaupodes Garman 1925.

Subfamily III, JOHNSTONIANINAE Sig Thor, 1935.

Abdomen cylindrical, with pointed simple hairs. Crista well developed, with two sensillary areas in the middle (or at ends) and 4 (2 pairs) of pseudostigmal hairs. With a distinct nasus. Eyes shortly stalked or sessile. Palpi with or without a few tibial spines. Legs moderately long.

Included here by Sir Thor are Johnstoniana George 1909 (= Diplothrombium Berlese 1910 = Rohaultia Oudemans 1911), Centrotrombidium Kramer 1896, Notothrombium Storkan 1934. To these should be added Myrmicotrombium Womersley 1934. The genus Rohaultia Oudemans was erected for a larval form. As the genus Centrothrombidium Kramer possesses only one pair of pseudostigmal hairs on a single sensillary area of the crista, the inclusion of it here does

not seem natural. It would probably be better placed in the *Microtrombidinae*. With the exception of this genus and of *Notothrombium*, the description of which is not available to me, the two Australian genera may be separated thus:

- Eyes 2 + 2, sessile. Crista with either both or only one pair of pseudostigmal hairs situated medially; if only one, then the second pair is at the anterior end; both pairs on sensillary areas.
 Gen, Johnstoniana George 1909.
 (= Diplothrombium Berl. = Robaultin Ouds.).
- 2. Eyes 1 + 1, sessile. Crista with two pairs of pseudostigmal hairs placed at opposite ends, on sensillary areas ... Gen, Myrmicotrombium Wom, 1934.

Genus Johnstoniana George, 1909.

- = Diplothrombium Berl, 1910, Hirst 1928, Womersley 1934.
- = Roboultin Ouds. 1911, Wom, 1934,

Only a single species *Johnstoniana australiense* (Hirst, 1928) is known from Australia. It was described by Hirst from Queensland and was later recorded by the present writer from South Australia.

Genus Myrmicotrombium Womersley, 1934.

This genus is only known from the type species M. brevieristatum Wom. described from specimens found in an auts' nest in South Australia.

Subfamily IV, Eutrombidinae Sig Thor, 1935.

Abdomen broad, triangular (except the narrow Leptothrombium), with short thickly eiliated hairs and with a few transverse furrows. Apex of abdomen with an oval shield-like area, seldom without. Thorax anteriorly with a distinct nasus. Crista well developed, with a medial small but solid sensillary area and two pseudo-stigmal hairs between the shortly pedunculate or sessile paired eyes. Palpi with strong accessory claw and many strong spines. Legs strong, of variable length, Larvae with 2 or 3 dorsal shields; lower lip forming a chitinous ring; tarsal claws of leg III strongly modified, the inner claw being stump-like and projecting backwards.

The genera placed here by Sig Thor are Entrombidium Verdun 1909, Leptothrombium Berlese 1912, and Cercothrombium Methlagl 1927. The last is only known from the larval stage, Entrombidium from both larva and adult, and Leptothrombium from the adult only. The last genus is regarded by Berlese as but a subgenus of Entrombidium.

The following key will help in the separation of the genera.

1.	Adults		 	 	 	2.
	Larvae		 	 	 	3.

2. Form broadly triangular; body hairs uniform.

Gen. Eutrombidium Verdun, 1909.

Form narrow and elongate; body hairs of two forms.

Gen. Leptothrombidium Berlese, 1912.

3. Only two dorsal shields; coxal hairs short and stumpy and apically bifureated.

Gen. Eutrombidium Verdun, 1909.

Three dorsal shields; coxal hairs long, pointed and ciliated.

Gen. Cercothrombium Methlagl, 1927.

Genus Eutrombidium Verdun, 1909.

This is the only genus as yet known to occur in Australia. It is represented by *Eutrombidium trigonum* Herman, the larvae of which have been found attached to the Black-tipped Loeust, *Chortoicetes terminifera* (Walker) at the Waite Institute, Glen Osmond, South Australia, by Mr. D. C. Swan in April, 1934.

Subfamily V, Podothrombiinae Sig Thor, 1935.

Abdomen moderately broad, cordate, with shoulders and with fine, very weakly or unciliated hairs. No nasus. In the middle of the thorax and between the two pairs of shortly pedunculate eyes is a well developed sensillary area with two pseudostigmal hairs; crista behind sensillary area shortened and in front rudimentary. Fourth segment of palpi with accessory claw and many spines or combs; fifth segment (tarsus) large. Legs long.

The genus *Podothrombium* Berlese 1910 is the only one included in this subfamily. It does not occur in Australia.

Subfamily VI, TROMBICULINAE Ewing, 1929.

(Itch- or Chigger-mites.)

Body form in adult with the shape of an 8, with a constriction behind the shoulders; abdomen rounded behind. Body hairs thick, soft, and finally ciliated. Thorax without nasus, sometimes with an anterior incision. Crista well developed, extending the whole length of thorax, posteriorly with a sensillary area and two pseudostigmal hairs. Eyes weakly developed, seldom one or two pairs near the sensillary area, often absent or rudimentary. Palpi long, fourth segment without comb or accessory claw, with few spines (more in *Blankaartia*). Legs short. Larvae with only one dorsal shield (two in *Blankaartia*).

In this group Sig Thor places the following genera: Heterothrombidium Verdun 1909, Neothrombium Bruyant 1909, Doloisia Oudemans 1910, Leeuwenhoekia

Oudemans 1911, Hannemania Oudemans 1911, Gahrliepia Ondemans 1912, Schöngastia Oudemans 1910, Neoschöngastia Ewing 1929, Schöngastiella Hirst 1915, Odontacarus Ewing 1929, Walchia Ewing 1932, Endotrombicula Ewing 1932, Atamus Latr. 1795 (= Metathrombium Oudemans 1909), Trombicula Berlese 1905 (= Neotrombicula Hirst 1925).

Very few of these genera are known from the adult forms, most of them being represented in collections by larvae. The larval stages are generally to be found as ectoparasites on warm-blooded animals (including man) but some appear to be restricted to amphibians.

The genus Atomus Latr. (= Metathrombium Onds.) is here regarded as being more properly placed in the Microtrombidiinae.

The various genera may be separated with the help of the following key;

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1.	
	Lacvae 3.
2.	Eyes placed at base of large sensillary area of crista, or absent. Sensillary area broad with two pseudostigmal hairs. Gen. Trambicula Berlese, 1903.
	Eyes placed on anterior margin of thorax; apex of thorax incised. Gen. Blankaartia Ondemans, 1911 (not Australian).
ij.	With two median dorsal shields. Eyes two on each side, posterior eye the smaller. Dorsum behind second shield with numerous small symmetrical shields. Lower lip not as a chitinous ring. Tarsi I and II with only 2 claws, III with three. Gen. Blankaartio Ondemans, 1911 (not Australian).
	With one or three median dorsal shields and only one eye on each side 4.
4,	Anterior dursal shield with 3 or more pairs of setae, in addition to the two pseudostigual hairs
	Dorsal shield with only 4 or 5 single setae besides the pseudostigmal hairs 9.
5.	Dorsal shield with 5 pairs of setae besides the pseudostigmal hairs. Femur of leg I only divided; one pair of setae between coxae I and one pair between coxae III. Palpal claw bifurcate. Gen. Gahrliepia Oudemans, 1912. (= Typhlothrombium Ondemans, 1911) (not Australian).
	Dorsal shield with 3 pairs of setae 6.
6.	Pseudostigmal hairs clavate. Gen. Schängustiella Hirst, 1915 (not Australian).
	Pseudostigmal hairs not clavate 7.
7.	Median dorsal shield longer than broad; maxillary coxal setae in front of palpi Gen. Heterothrombium Verdun, 1910 (not Australian).
	Dorsal shield broader than long 8.
8.	Dorsal shield without any median anterior process but with a poorly developed crista
	Dorsal shield with a short median anterior process; without crista.

Gen. Leeuwenhockia Oudemans, 1911.

9.	Dorsal shield trapezoidal
	Dorsal shield triangular. Palpal elaw with 1-5 points. Gen. <i>Doloisia</i> Oudemans, 1912 (not Australian).
10.	Dorsal shield with only two pairs of setae besides the pseudostigmal hairs; latter elavate. Eyes absent or rudimentary. Palpal claw trifurcate. Gen. Walchia Ewing, 1931 (not Australian).
	Dorsal shield with 5 setae in addition to the pseudostigmal hairs; latter elavate or not
11.	Pseudostigmal hairs clavate 12.
	Pseudostigmal hairs not elavate
12.	Chelieerae with a row of teeth dorsally; palpal elaw usually bifureate.
	Gen. Schöngastia Oudemans, 1910. Chelieerae without more than one dorsal tooth; palpal elaw trifureate. Eyes two Gen. Neoschöngastia Ewing, 1929 (not Australian).
13.	Dorsal shield distinctly pentagonal, with the posterior sides forming a strong angle. Eyes two on each side or absent
	Dorsal shield at most roughly 5-sided, without strong posterior angle 15.
14.	Eyes two on each side. Gen. Pentagonella Sig Thor, 1936 (not Australian).
	Eyes absent Gen. Reidlinea Oudemans, 1916 (not Australian).
15.	Dorsal shield poorly developed; all 5 setae placed near middle of shield; median anterior seta simple; pseudostigmal hairs short, simple, setiform. Chelieerae with 3 sharp recurved teeth on upper margin and a vestigial lateral tooth. Eyes $2+2$, well developed. Gen. Endotrombicula Ewing, 1931 (not Australian).
	Dorsal shield well developed, the 5 setae marginal or submarginal 16.
16.	Chelicerae with a row of teeth on upper margin. Gen. Odontacarus Ewing, 1929 (not Australian).
	Chelieerae with not more than one tooth on upper margin. Gen. Trombicula Berlese, 1905. (= Neotrombicula Hirst, 1925).

Of the above genera only *Trombicula* Berlese 1905, *Schöngastia* Ondemans 1910, and *Leeuwenhoekia* Ondemans 1911 are so far known to be represented in Australia.

Genus Trombicula Berlese, 1905.

The following five species of this genus are recorded from Australia, two as adults and three as larvae.

Trombicula signata Womersley, 1934.

Described from a solitary adult specimen from Western Australia. The type is in the South Australian Museum.

Trombicula tindalei Womersley, 1936.

Described from a specimen taken on Flinders Chase, Kangaroo Island, South Australia by Mr. N. B. Tindale. Type in the South Australian Museum.

Trombicula Hirsti Sambon, 1927.

Only known from the larval form, this species is the "ti-tree itch mite" of Queensland and South Australia. Its real host is unknown but recently the writer has had a specimen from a blackbird where it was found walking over the beak after the death of the bird. This specimen was from Payneham, South Australia. June 30th, 1937.

TROMBICULA NOVAE-HOLLANDIAE Hirst, 1929.

Described from larvae found on Rattus greyi from Kangaroo Island, South Australia, it was later taken on Potorous tridactylus in Tasmania.

TROMBICULA MACROPUS Womersley, 1934.

This species was described from specimens of larvae found attached to the scrotum of a wallaby from Darwin, Northern Australia.

Gemus Schöngastia Oudemans, 1910.

Of this larval genus five species have been described from the Australian continent as follows:

Schöngastia antipodianum Hirst, 1929.

From Rattus greyi from Kangaroo Island, South Australia.

Schöngastia coorongensis Hirst, 1929.

From the ears of a rodent at Robe, South Australia.

Schöngastia dasycerci Hirst, 1929.

From Dasycercus cristicauda, Ooldea, South Australia.

Schöngastia westraliense Womersley, 1934.

From the ears of a domestic cat, Greenbushes, Western Australia.

Schöngastia petrogale Womersley, 1934.

From the scrotum of a wallaby, Musgrave Ranges, South Australia,

Genus Leeuwenhoekia Oudemans, 1911.

LEEUWENHOEKIA AUSTRALIENSE HIRST, 1925.

Originally described from specimens taken on a human being in New South Wales, it has also been found on the ears of a domestic eat at Glen Osmond, South Australia.

Subfamily VII, MICROTROMBIDIINAE Sig Thor, 1935.

Body small to moderately large. Abdomen cordate. Body hairs very variable, smooth, thin, weakly eiliated or thick (apparently unciliated), dagger-like, elavate or globular, frequently combed on inner side, septate or not. Eyes usually in two pairs or absent, sessile or shortly pedaneulate. The sensillary area of crista behind the eyes, usually posterior or subposterior, occasionally submedial. Palpi on fourth segment with one or a few spines (besides accessory elaw), on inner side with a longer or smaller comb of stiff hairs and sometimes some spine-like setac. Nasus absent (except *Neotrombidium*). Legs generally shorter than or as short as body. Larvae with 1, 2 or 5 large dorsal plates, sometimes these followed by rows of round or quadrate plates bearing setac. Eyes usually two on each side, occasionally only one. Hind tarsi with 2 or 3 claws, modified or not. Lower lip of mouth parts not ring-like.

Within this subfamily Sig Thor places the following:

Microtrombidium Haller 1882 (subg. Enemothrombium Berlese, 1910; Campylothrombium Krause, 1916); Dromeothrombium Berlese, 1912; Ettmülleria Oudemans, 1911 (larvae); Atomus Latr., 1795 (= Metathrombium Oudemans, 1911); Polydiscia Methlagl, 1927; Neotrombidium Leonardi, 1901; Georgia Hull, 1918; Calothrombium Berlese, 1918; Haplothrombium Ewing, 1925 (larvae): Dendrothrombium Sig Thor, 1936; Platythrombidium Sig Thor, 1936; Camerothrombium Sig Thor, 1936.

In 1935 (Zool. Anz. cix, 111) in defining his subfamily Sig Thor expressed the opinion that Enemothrombidium and Campylothrombium should be regarded as only subgenera of Microtrombidium. Later, however (Zool. Anz. 1936, exiv, 30–31) he further split up the Microtrombidium complex and erected three additional new genera, Dendrothrombium, Platythrombidium and Camerothrombium on corresponding differences in hair structure. As restricted in the present paper both Enemothrombidium and Campylothrombium are regarded as of generic status in accordance with Sig Thor's later paper. The genus Centrothrombium Krause, for reasons stated earlier, is also included in this subfamily. Here also the following new genera are erected and defined: Echinothrombium (type Ottonia spinosum Canest.); Laminothrombium (type M. myrmicum Womersley, 1934); Eutrichothrombium (type M.(E.) eutrichum Berlese, 1905).

The larval genus *Ettmülleria*, although evidence is not conclusive, would appear to be the larval stage of *Echinothrombium* or *Cumerothrombium*, more probably the latter (see Womersley 1936, J. Linn. Soc. London, xl. 114).

KEY TO THE GENERA OF MICROTROMBIDINAE,

1.	Larval forms 2.
	Adult forms 5.
<u>9</u> .	With two large dorsal shields which are punctate. Inner claw of tarsus III strongly modified, short stump-like and directed backwards. Palpi with claws
	One or five large dorsal shields; if one, then this followed by a series of rows of large dorsal shields. Inner claw of tarsus III not as above 4.
3.	The dorsal setae behind the second shield placed on small round plates. Eyes $2+2$, sessile Gen. Ettmülleria Oudemans, 1911.
	No small plates behind second shield. Eyes $2+2$, sessile.
	Gen. Atomus Latr 1795. $(=Metathrombinm Oudemans, 1909 (not Australian).$
4.	With 5 large transverse dorsal shields. Eyes $1 + 1$. Tarsus of leg III with only two claws, one long and one short, and a long stiff seta with long secondary hairlets. Gen. <i>Haplothrombium</i> Ewing, 1925 (not Australian).
	With one large dorsal plate, this hour-glass shaped and porous; the dorsum behind occupied by 16 large quadrate plates each bearing a seta. Eyes $2+2$, sessile, on small plates. Claws on all tarsi unmodified. Gen. Polydiscia Methlagl, 1927 (not Australian).
5.	With a distinct nasus. Dorsal body hairs uniform, trifurcate from base, with few or no serrations Gen. Neotrombidium Leonardi, 1911.
	Without a nasus 6.
6.	Sensillary area of crista submedial. Palpi with strong accessory claw, three strong spines on inner side and 8-9 on outer side of tibia. Body hairs short but strong, frequently bifurcated from base, the arms sometimes expanded and forming an enclosure, with strong hairlets. Gen. Calathrombium Berlese, 1918.
	Sensillary area of crista posterior or subposterior 7.
7.	Palpal tarsus clavate, apically with two strong long forwardly directed spines; tibia with long apical claw and small accessory claw. Pseudostigmal hairs clavate (Oudemans). Eyes $2+2$.
	Not so
8.	Dorsal bairs uniformly of one type but sometimes of variable length 9.
	Dorsal hairs of two distinct types
9.	Dorsal hairs tapering, pointed, with long outstanding hairlets
	Dorsal hairs different

10.	Legs I and IV shorter than the body. Subg. Microtrombidium Haller, 1882.
	Legs I and IV longer than body. Subg. Dromeothrombium Berlese, 1912.
11.	Dorsal body hairs long and spine-like with few serrations. Palpal tibia with one large accessory claw and a few spine-like setae. Gen. Echinothrombium nov. (part).
	(type O. spinosum Canest., 1877).
	Not so
12.	Dorsal body hairs tree-like with fine intermingling branches. Palpal tibia laterally with a strong forwardly directed spine. Tarsi I oval, broad, much longer than metatarsus. Gen. Dendrothrombium Sig Thor, 1936 (not Australian).
	Not so
13.	Dorsal body hairs not septate 14.
	Dorsal body hairs septate, divided into chambers 16
14.	Dorsal body hairs sessile, short, conical, pointed with numerous short cilia-
141 0	tions. Palpal tibia laterally with at least one, often many, strong spines. Tarsus I generally elongate-oval, longer than metatarsus. Gen. Platythrombium Sig Thor, 1936.
	Not so
15.	Dorsal body hairs more or less sessile, arising from short conical tubercles, leaf-like with marginal ciliations. Palpal tibia with strong accessory claw and without strong dorsal spines. Tarsus I short and broad.
	Gen. Laminothrombium nov.
	(type <i>M. myrmicum</i> Wom., 1934). Dorsal body hairs on short peduncles, claviform, apically acute or rounded, with short ciliations Gen. <i>Enemothrombium</i> Berlesc, 1905 (part).
1 6.	Dorsal body hairs short stalked or sessile, cup-like with short stiff ciliations.
	Gen. Camerothrombium Sig Thor, 1936 (part).
	Dorsal body hairs long, claviform and not cup-shaped, backwardly curved,
	with subapical septum and open apex. Gen. Campylothrombium Krause, 1916 (part) (not Australian).
17.	
	Not so
18.	or no serrations Gen. Echinothrombium nov. (part).
	Shorter hairs otherwise
19.	Longer hairs septate 20.
	Longer hairs not septate 21.
20.	Longer hairs elongate, claviform, open at apex. Gen. Campylothrombium Krause, 1916 (part) (not Australian).
	Longer hairs cup-like or globose, on short peduncles. Gen. Camerothrombium Sig Thor, 1936 (part).
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21. Shorter hairs sessile, short, conical, pointed, with numerous ciliations, as in *Platythrombidium*, or else without ciliations and with 4-5 short apical fungiform lobes; longer hairs clayiform or rod-like with many ciliations.

Gen. Enemothrombium Berlese, 1905 (part).

Genus Ettmulleria Oudemans, 1911.

This larval genus is, so far, represented in Australia by the following two species.

ETTMULLERIA AUSTRALIS Womersley, 1936.

Reared from eggs which may have been those of a species of *Echinothrombium* or *Camerothrombium* from Flinders Chase, Kangaroo Island, South Australia.

ETTMULLERIA OBSCURA Womersley, 1936.

Only known from a single individual found in moss from Glen Osmond, South Australia.

Genus Neotrombidium Leonardi, 1901.

Represented in Australia by a single species N. barringunense Hirst 1928, which is known from New South Wales and South Australia.

Genus Calothrombium Berlese, 1918.

To this genus should be referred the following three species.

CALOTHROMBIUM RETENTUS (Banks, 1916).

- = Rhyncholophus retentus Banks, 1916.
- = Microtrombidium retentus Womersley, 1934.

The longer dorsal hairs often bifurcated with straight branches. Palpal tarsus with 3 inner spines. Tarsus I four times as long as high and only slightly longer than metatarsus.

This species is only known from the type material from Vietoria.

CALOTHROMBIUM KOORDANUM (Hirst, 1928).

= Microtrombidium koordanum Hirst 1928, Womersley 1934.

The longer dorsal hairs bi- or trifurcate from base, the branches widened, leaf-like and forming more or less of an enclosure between the leaves. Palpi with clavate tarsus. Tarsi I twice as long as high and equal in length to metatarsus.

Only known from type material from Koorda, Western Australia.

Calothrombium tubbi sp. nov.

(Text fig. I a-d).

Description. Colour reddish. Length 1.923 mm., width 1.29 mm. Eyes 2+2 sessile, placed well forward on anterior margin of thorax. Crista 345μ long with posterior sensillary area and two pseudostigmal hairs. Palpi 430μ long, femur almost cylindrical and but little swollen, tibia with large blunt apical claw and smaller accessory claw behind which are two spines, tarsus long and cylindrical reaching tip of claw. Legs short; 1.1345μ , tarsus elliptical 283μ by 170μ , metatarsus 173μ ; II 865μ ; III 770μ ; IV 1070μ . Dorsal hairs uniform, bifureated at base, one branch being fan- or leaf-like and convex, the other branch elongate and curved in towards the fan, both branches with long ciliae.

Locality. A single specimen collected by Mr. H. Tubb at Heathmont, Victoria, July 28th, 1934.

Genns Microtrombidium Haller, 1882.

Subgenus Dromeothrombium Berlese, 1912.

This is separated from the subgenus *Microtrombidium* s. str. by the great length of the first and fourth legs. The following Australian species should be placed here.

MICROTROMBIDIUM (DROMEOTHROMBIUM) ATTOLUS (Banks, 1916).

- = Rhyncholophus attolus Banks, 1916.
- = Microtrombidium attolus Womersley, 1934.

Only known from the type material from Sydney, New South Wales.

Subgenus Microtrombidium Haller, 1882, s. str.

Nine Australian species can be referred to this subgenus in the restricted sense. They may be keyed as follows:

3. Tarsus 1 204\(\mu\) by 85\(\mu\), with sides converging towards apex, metatarsus 136\(\mu\). Hairs variable in length up to 65μ , with long outstanding hairlets. Palpal tibia with accessory claw and three strong spines on inner side, without lateral forwardly directed spine M.(M.) westraliense Womersley, 1934. Front tarsus with parallel sides, 415μ by 135μ , metatarsus 235μ . Dorsal hairs variable in length up to 50μ , with long hairlets which on some of the longer hairs lie closer apically giving a clavate bushy appearance. Palpal tibia with strong accessory claw and laterally a strong forwardly directed spine.

M.(M.) myloriense sp. nov.

- 4. Front tarsus broadest basally, with a very distinct basal angle. Dorsal hairs 35μ. Palpal tibia with accessory claw 4.0 Front tarsus broadest in the middle, without distinct basal angle.
- Smaller species, 1190μ, tarsus 1 twice as long as high, 272μ by 136μ, metatarsus 136µ. Dorsal setae 35µ long M.(M.) karriense Womersley, 1934. Larger species 2040μ , tarsus 1.450μ by 270μ , metatarsus longer than tarsus is high, 300µ. Dorsal setae 35µ long 4.6 $M_{\bullet}(M_{\bullet})$ tasmanicum sp. nov.
- Dorsal hairs 26μ, tapering, uniform in length, tarsus I 272μ by 136μ, sides strongly and evenly curved, widest in middle, metatarsus 270\(\rho\). Palpal tibia with accessory claw, without strong lateral spine. Length 1275μ . $M_{\bullet}(M_{\bullet})$ aequalis (Banks, 1916).

Dorsal hairs 40 µ or more long, uniform 4.4

- Dorsal hairs variable in length to 52μ, longer ones bushy at apex and appearing somewhat clavate. Tarsus I, 220μ by 90μ, broadest in middle. Palpal tarsus with accessory claw. Length 930µ .. M.(M.) newmani Wom., 1934. Dorsal hairs 40 long, uniform
- Tarsus I 187μ by 102μ, widest in middle, metatarsus 102μ long. Palpal tibia with accessory claw followed by a dorsal series of spines. Length 1000μ by M.(M.) adelaidicum Wom., 1928. 1100μ

Tarsus I 272μ by 136μ ; widest medially, metatarsus nearly as long as tarsus, 238μ. Palpal tibia with accessory claw and series of spines. Length to 1200μ. $M_{\bullet}(M_{\bullet})$ affine Hirst, 1928.

Microtrombidium (M.) barringunense Hirst, 1928.

Only known from the type material from Barringun, New South Wales,

MICROTROMBIDIUM (M.) WESTRALIENSE Womersley, 1934.

Found associated with ants in Western Australia.

MICROTROMBIDIUM (M.) KARRIENSIS Womersley, 1934.

This species is widely distributed in South Australia, and I have records of it from Morialta Gorge, September 2nd, 1934; Mount Osmond, June 10th, 1934; Mylor, September 14th, 1935; Mount Compass, June 7th, 1935; National Park, Belair, May 6th, 1935, July 19th, 1936, July 4th, 1937; Adelaide, May 11th, 1936; Mount Lofty, May, 1937.

MICROTROMBIDIUM (M.) AEQUALIS (Banks, 1916).

As stated in my previous paper, the type of this species appears to have become lost, but a second record from Western Australia was given.

MICROTROMBIDIUM (M.) NEWMANI Womersley, 1934.

Only known from the type record of Bedford-dale, Western Australia.

MICROTROMBIDIUM (M.) AFFINE Hirst, 1928.

This species is fairly common in and around the Adelaide district of South Australia.

MICROTROMBIDIUM (M.) ADELAIDICUM Womersley, 1934.

Not uncommon around Adelaide, South Australia.

MICROTROMBIDIUM (M.) MYLORIENSE Sp. nov.

(Text fig. 1, e-g).

Description. Length $1\cdot 91$ mm., width $1\cdot 335$ mm. Colour reddish. Abdomen ovate, with moderately rounded shoulders, thorax small 550μ wide; eyes 2+2, sessile, placed on lateral edge of thorax; crista short, 300μ long, sensillary area broad with two pseudostigmal hairs, anterior arm of crista two-thirds as wide as sensillary area. No nasus. Palpal tibia with strong apical claw and accessory claw, laterally a strong forwardly projecting spine and on outer side of tibia with a number of strong spines; tarsus slightly clavate, reaching tip of claw. Legs shorter than body, I 1600μ , tarsus I with almost parallel sides, 415μ by 135μ , metatarsus 235μ long. Body hairs slightly variable in length, $25-50\mu$, pointed with long hairlets but in some of the longer ones the apical hairlets tend to cling giving a brush-like appearance.

Locality. Two specimens from under a stone along Cox Creek, Mylor, South Australia, September 26, 1937.

Microtrombidium (M.) tasmanicum sp. nov.

(Text fig. 1, k-n).

Description. Length $2\cdot 0$ mm. Colour reddish. Abdomen ovate without distinct shoulders, $1\cdot 2$ mm. wide, thorax 600μ wide without nasus. Eyes 2+2, sessile, placed on anterior margins of thorax; crista 430μ long with posterior sensillary area and two pseudostigmal hairs. Palpal tibia with strong apical and

accessory claws and on outer side with some strong setae, apparently without lateral forwardly directed spine; tarsus not clavate, reaching tip of claw. Legs shorter than body; tarsus I 450μ by 270μ , elliptical, broadest before the middle, metatarsus 300μ long. Dorsal body hairs uniform, with strong lateral hairlets, but not forming a distinct apical taper; length of hairs $30-35\mu$.

Locality. Two specimens collected by Mr. J. W. Evans on Mount Wellington, Tasmania, October, 1935.

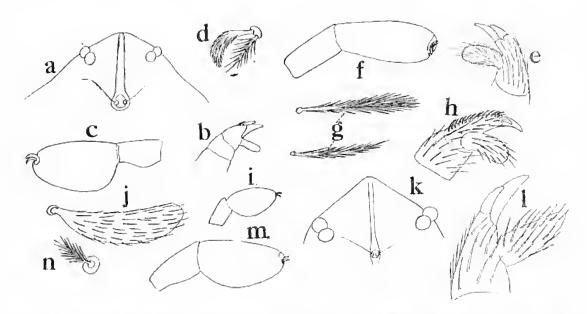


Fig. 1. a-d. Calothrombiam tubbi sp. nov.; a, anterior end showing eyes and crista; b, tip of palp; e, front tarsus and metatarsus; d, dorsal seta. e-g, Microtrombidium (M.) mytoriense sp. nov.; e, tip of palp; f, front tarsus and metatarsus; g, dorsal seta. h-j, Enemothrombiam evansi sp. nov.; h, tip of palp; i, front tarsus and metatarsus; j, dorsal seta. k-n, Microtrombidium (M.) tasmanicum sp. nov.; k, anterior end showing eyes and crista; l, tip of palp; m, front tarsus and metatarsus; n, dorsal seta.

Genus Echinothrombium nov.

As in *Microtrombidium* s. str. but all or some of the body hairs long strong and spine-like with relatively few or no short serrations.

The type of the genus is Ottonia spinosum Canestrini 1877, and other species are M. cchidninum Hirst, 1931 (= M. victoriense Womersley, 1934); M. spinatum Womersley, 1934; O. hystricinum Canestrini; diversipite Canestrini; M. southeotti Womersley, 1934; M. willungae Hirst, 1931.

Of these spinatum, echidniuum, southeotti and willungae are Australian, spinosum is European while hystricinum and diversipile are known from New Guinea.

KEY TO THE AUSTRALIAN SPECIES OF ECHINOTHROMBIUM.

1. All the dorsal spines variable in length but uniform and spinelike with short serrations. Tarsus I 270μ by 135μ , elliptical, metatarsus 190μ long. Palpal tarsus clavate, tibia with terminal and accessory claw and two spines.

E. spinatum (Wom., 1934).

2. Dorsal spines sparsely and minutely serrated, tapering apically, $200-230\mu$ long; smaller setae 25μ , pointed with comparatively long hairlets. Tarsus I $3\frac{1}{2}$ times as long as high, sides almost parallel. *E. echidninum* (Hirst, 1931). = victoriense (Wom., 1934).

Dorsal spines not much more than 100μ long; shorter setae not so pointed, with relatively shorter hairlets. Front tarsus elliptical. Species smaller . . 3.

3. Front tarsus twice as long as high E. southcotti (Wom., 1934). Front tarsus three times as long as high .. . E. willungae (Hirst, 1931).

ECHIDNINUM SPINATUM (Womersley, 1934).

The type of this species was collected at Glen Osmond, South Australia.

Echinothrombium echidninum (Hirst, 1931).

= M. echidninum Hirst, 1931.

M.(E.) victoriensis Womersley, 1934.

This is one of the most abundant Trombid mites in South Australia. It is undoubtedly synonymous with my species M.(E.) victoriensis.

Echinothrombium southcotti (Womersley, 1934).

= M.(E.) southcotti Womersley, 1934.

Described from material from Belair, South Australia.

Genus Platythrombidium Sig Thor, 1936.

To this genus belongs the single Australian species.

Platythrombidium paranum (Hirst, 1928).

= Mierotrombidium paranum Hirst 1928, Womersley 1934.

This species is only known from the type material from Gawler, South Australia.

Genus Laminothrombium nov.

Dorsal body hairs leaf-like with strong midrib and marginal ciliations. Front

tarsi elliptical, width more than half the length. Palpal tibia with strong apical and accessory claws.

The type and only species of this genus is

Laminothrombium myrmicum (Womersley, 1934).

= M. myrmicum Womersley, 1934.

Described from material from the nest of ants in South Australia.

Genus Enemothrombium Berlese, 1905, s. str.

As restricted in the generic key this genus will include the two following species:

Enemothrombium cygnus Womersley, 1936.

= M.(E.) cygnus Womersley, 1936.

Described from a single specimen from Flinders Chase, Kangaroo Island, South Australia.

ENEMOTHROMBIUM EVANSI Sp. nov.

(Text fig. 1 h-j).

Description. Length 1·1 mm., width 0·7 mm. Colour in life reddish. Eyes 2+2, sessile and placed on anterior margin of thorax. Crista 160μ long, well developed with posterior sensillary area and two pseudostigmal hairs. Palpal tibia with strong apical and subapical accessory claws, dorsally with a series of strong spines running right to base and laterally and inwardly with another shorter series. Legs shorter than body; tarsus I elliptical 176μ by 100μ , widest in middle, metatarsus 95μ long. Dorsal body hairs of approximately uniform length, sessile, cylindrical, with blunt apex and with longitudinal lines of fine serrations.

Locality. The type of this species was found by Mr. J. W. Evans in a rotten log on Mount Wellington, Tasmania, in May, 1935. A second specimen was from moss from Brisbane, Queensland, in October, 1934, and a third from Fern Tree Gully, Victoria, in January, 1937.

Genus Camerothrombium Sig Thor, 1936.

Sig Thor places in this genus the following Australian species: *E. simile* Hirst, *E. cottinum* Hirst and *E. hirsti* Womersley. To them should be added *E. wyandrae* Hirst. These four species may be separated as follows:

- 2. Larger dorsal hairs with stem suddenly expanding to form eup. Tarsus I three and a half times as long as high ... C. simile (Hirst, 1928). Larger dorsal hairs with stem gradually expanding to form eup. Tarsus I less than 3 times as long as high ... C. hirsti (Wom., 1934).

Camerothrombium simile (Hirst, 1928).

- = M.(E.) simile Hirst, 1928.
- = M.(E.) simile Womersley, 1934.

This species is fairly widely distributed in South Australia.

CAMEROTHROMBIUM HIRSTI (Womersley, 1934).

= M.(E.) hirsti Womersley, 1934.

As yet known from the type material only.

CAMEROTHROMBIUM WYANDRAE (Hirst, 1928).

= M. wyandrae Hirst, 1928.

Only known from the type material.

CAMEROTHROMBIUM COLLINUM (Hirst, 1928).

= M. collinum Hirst, 1928.

There are no further records beyond that of the type material.

Genus Eutrichothrombium nov.

Dorsal body hairs globular, on peduncles, without septa and interspersed with fine longer needle-like setae; globular hairs finely ciliated. Palpal tibia without true accessory claw but with a few dorsal setae and with a strong inner lateral forwardly directed spine. Tarsi elliptical.

This new genus is erected for the Javanese species E. eutrichum Berlese, 1903.

Subfamily VIII, TROMBIDHNAE Michael, 1883 (part), Sig Thor, 1936.

Body large or very large, triangular or cordate, thickly covered with elongate or clavate or ciliated or feathered hairs, generally reddish. No nasus. Eyes paired on long peduncles. Crista with sensillary area and two pseudostigmal

hairs; sometimes the crista is tripartite, usually entire, always narrow. Palpi large; tarsus long and clavate, tibia simple with apical claw but no accessory claw or comb. Legs short and thick, tarsi without pulvilli.

Included here are the genera *Trombidium* Fab. 1775 (= Scrivothrombium Berlese, 1910); *Dinothrombium* Ondemans, 1910 (= Trombidium Berlese, 1905); *Xenothrombium* Oudemans, 1927; *Caenothrombium* Oudemans, 1927; and *Austrothrombium* Womersley, 1934. They may be keyed thus:

- 3. Body hairs claviform or brush-like; apex of abdomen incised,

Gen, Trombidium Fab., 1775.

(Larvae with two dorsal plates, front plate with 3 pairs of setae and 2 pseudostigmal hairs. Claw of maxillary palp bifurcate. Median dorsal plate transverse; front plate folding below to venter. Mouth-parts not visible from above, lower lip ring-like. Leg III with deformed inner claw.)

4. Anterior plate of crista very deeply eleft, so as to appear fork-like.

Gen, Austrothrombium Womersley, 1934.

Anterior plate of crista with straight or only slightly concave front margin, Gen. Caenothrombium Oudemans, 1927.

Genus Xenothrombium Ondemans, 1927.

Only represented in Australia by the following recently discovered species,

XENOTHROMBIUM HIRSUTUM Sp. nov.

(Text fig. 2 e-j.)

Description. Length to $3\cdot 0$ mm., width $1\cdot 5$ mm., with a distinct constriction behind the shoulders. Colour bright red. Crista well developed with the sensillary area anterior of the middle, auterior arm simple and not ending in a transverse plate. Eyes 2+2, pedanculate. Palpi as figured, tarsus long, clavate, and reaching tip of claw. Legs shorter than body, strong; tarsus I 654μ by 211μ , more or less with parallel sides, metatarsus 480μ . Body thickly clothed with very long ciliated hairs, mostly up to 300μ long and red, but some up to $7-800\mu$ and white (cf. fig. 2j).

Locality. This species has so far been found only at the National Park, Belair, South Australia, 1936 and since. It is moderately common under stones and fallen branches.

Genus Caenothrombium Oudemans, 1927.

This seems to be the dominant genus in South Anstralia, no fewer than ten species having been described to date.

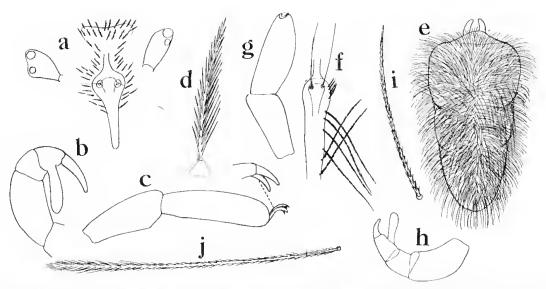


Fig. 2. a-d, Caenothrombium furcatum sp. nov.; a, crista and eyes; b, palp; c, front tarsus and metatarsus with claws enlarged; d, dorsal seta. e-j, Xenothrombium hirsutum sp. nov.; e, dorsal view; f, crista; g, front tarsus and metatarsus; h, palp; i, shorter dorsal seta; j, longer dorsal seta.

KEY TO THE SPECIES.

1.	Anterior two pairs of legs with bifurcate, occasionally trifurcate, claws; posterior two pairs with simple claws. Tarsus I nearly 4 times as long as high, with parallel sides; metatarsus $\frac{3}{4}$ length of tarsus. Dorsal hairs 70μ long, pointed, with long hairlets
	All tarsal claws simple 2.
2.	Dorsal body hairs of two sizes. Front tarsus 3 times as long as high, 425μ long. $\begin{array}{c} C.\ montivagum\ (\text{Hirst, 1928}).\\ = rainbowi\ (\text{Hirst, 1929}). \end{array}$ Dorsal body hairs more uniform
3.	Front tarsus very elongate, about 7 times as long as high. Length of animal 2·4 mm
	Front tarsus much shorter, not exceeding $4\frac{1}{2}$ times as long as high 4.
4.	Front and hind legs much longer than body. Front tarsus $4\frac{1}{2}$ times as long as high, 780μ by 175μ . A large well defined white patch on each shoulder and another at apex of abdomen

Ð.	Species not exceeding 4.0 mm. in	length		 		6.
	Species more than 4.0 mm, long	* *	for P	 	٠,	7.

6. Front tarsus $4-4\frac{1}{2}$ times as long as high. Dorsal body hairs $60-90\mu$ long, slender, tapering with long hairlets ... C. torridum (Hirst, 1928). = taylori (Hirst, 1928).

Posterior body hairs longer and straighter, 75μ long, more tapering and never swollen distally. Front tarsus 3 times as long as high.

C. crassnm (Hirst, 1928).

CAENOTHROMBIUM FURCATUM Sp. nov.

(Text fig. 2a-d.)

Description. Length to $1\cdot73$ mm., width $1\cdot0$ mm. Colour light red with a tendency to white patches or bands behind the shoulders. Crista well developed with a broad sensillary area antero-medially and with two pseudostigmal hairs; anterior plate of crista with slightly concave front margin. Eyes 2+2, on long peduncles, posterior eye the smaller. Front tarsus 397μ by 110μ , metatarsus 318μ . Tarsi of legs I and II with hifurcated claws occasionally one or other claw trifurcate; claws of legs III and IV simple. Leg I $1\cdot53$ mm., II $1\cdot21$ mm., III $1\cdot10$ mm., IV $1\cdot69$ mm. Palpal tibia with long strong apical claw; tarsus long and clavate. Dorsal body hairs arising from short conical tubercles, 70μ long, tapering to a point and with long strong hairlets.

Locality. Three specimens from a small paddock at Wood's Point, South Australia, October 24th, 1935 (H.W.).

Caenothrombium montivagum (Hirst, 1928).

= Microtrombidium montivagum Hirst, 1928.

Dinothrombium montivagum Hirst, 1929.

Dinothrombium rainbowi Hirst, 1929.

Coenothrombium montivagum Womersley, 1934.

There are no fresh records for this species,

Caenothrombium augustae (Hirst, 1928).

= Dinothrombium augustae Hirst, 1928.

Caenothrombium augustae Womersley, 1934.

This species is fairly widely distributed in the southern parts of South Australia.

CAENOTHROMBIUM ALBUM Womersley, 1934.

Also a fairly widely distributed species.

CAENOTHROMBIUM TORRIDUM (Hirst, 1929).

= Dinothrombium torridum Hirst, 1929.

Dinothrombium taylori Hirst 1929.

Caenothrombium torridum Womersley, 1934.

This appears to be rather an uncommon species in the southern part of South Australia.

Caenothrombium miniatum Womersley, 1934.

Not uncommon around the Adelaide district.

Caenothrombium nynganense (Hirst, 1928).

= Dinothrombium nynganense Hirst, 1928.

Caenothrombium nynganense Womersley, 1934.

Common and widely distributed in South Australia; it also occurs in New South Wales.

Caenothrombium crassum (Hirst, 1928).

= Dinothrombium crassum Hirst, 1928.

Caenothrombium crassum Womersley, 1934.

Only known from previously published records.

Caenothrombium sericatum (Rainbow, 1906).

= Trombidium sericatum Rainbow, 1906.

Dinothrombium splendidum Hirst, 1928.

Dinothrombium ventricosum Hirst, 1928.

Caenothrombium sericatum Womersley, 1934.

I have no further records of this species to add to those already published.

Caenothrombium nobile (Hirst, 1928).

= Dinothrombium nobile Hirst, 1928. Caenothrombium nobile Womersley, 1934.

No additional records.

Genus Austrothrombium Womersley, 1934.

Of this genus the three following species only are known from Australia:

Austrothrombium australiense (Hirst, 1929).

= Allothrombium (Mesothrombium) australiense Hirst, 1929. Austrothrombium australiense Womersley, 1934.

There are no further specimens to be recorded.

Austrothrombium insigne (Hirst, 1928).

= Allothrombium (Mesothrombium) insigne Hirst, 1928. Austrothrombium insigne Womersley, 1934.

I know of no further specimens of this species.

Austrothrombium kondinium (Hirst, 1928).

= Allothrombium (Mesothrombium) antipodianum v. kondinium Hirst, 1928. Allothrombium (Mesothrombium) kondinium Hirst, 1929. Austrothrombium kondinium Womersley, 1934.

Only known from the previously published records.

Genns Trombidium Fab., 1775.

No adult species of this genus has yet been found in Australia, but the following larval form has recently been discovered by the writer.

Trombidium clarki sp. nov.

(Text fig. 3a-f.)

Description. Length 2·3 mm., width 1·5 mm. Colour red. Month parts not visible from above, lower lip forming a chitinous ring. Anterior dorsal plate only slightly showing on the dorsal surface, mostly ventral, 175p wide posteriorly and 112μ anteriorly, finely and longitudinally striate, with three pairs of hairs and one pair of long fine pseudostigmal hairs. Posterior plate wide and short, 142μ by 50μ , longitudinally striated with two hairs, 4 times its own length from

the anterior plate. Eyes small, 2+2. Dorsal body hairs short, fine with few ciliations and sparse, in 5 rows of 2, 4, 4, 4, 2. Legs: anterior pairs of coxac adjacent, tarsi with three claws, front two pairs with the middle claw long and slender, lateral claws stouter, shorter and subapically trifurcate; inner claw on leg III modified, stump-like and directed backwards, outer claw spine-like with long hairlets, middle one short and sickle shaped. Venter with three pairs of hairs behind third legs.

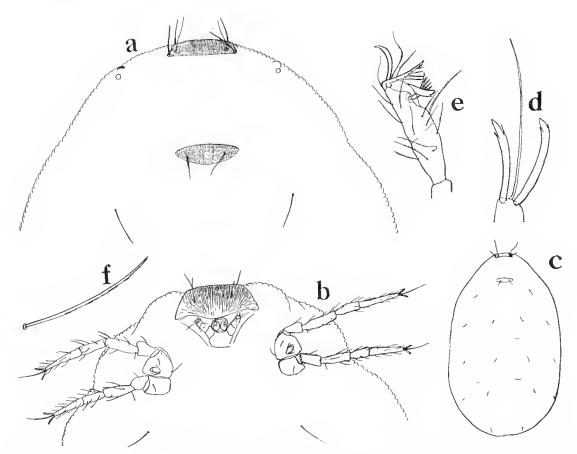


Fig. 3. a-f, *Trombidium clarki* sp. nov.; a, anterior half from above; b, same from below; e, entire dorsal view; d, front claws; e, posterior claws; f, dorsal seta.

Locality. Several specimens taken from an Anthomyid fly at Fern Tree Gully, Victoria, in January, 1937. It is named in honour of Mr. J. Clark, Entomologist to the National Museum, Melbourne.

Subfamily IX, Allothrombiinae Sig Thor, 1936.

Body larger, with strong shoulders, rounded, with bristle-like feathered, seldom furcate hairs. Eyes 2 + 2 on long peduncles. Crista distinctly tripartite,

with large broad, cross- or heart-shaped sensillary area which is placed on or in front of the middle; sensillary area with two pseudostigmal hairs. Palpi large, with large apical claw but without accessory claw or comb of spines. Legs short or moderately long, tarsi with characteristic pulvilli or on the outer side of each claw with a brush-like bristle (in *Coreothrothrombium*).

The two genera *Allothrombium* Berlese 1903 and *Coreothrothrombium* Oudemans 1928, are placed in this subfamily. Only the first of these is known from Australia.

KEY TO THE AUSTRALIAN SPECIES OF ALLOTHROMBIUM.

1.	Up to 1.2 mm, in length, sparse haired; form rather elongate and much constricted behind shoulders. Body hairs uniform and with few long secondary hairlets A. delicatulum Womersley, 1934.
	Large species 2.
2.	Dorsum with a distinct pattern of red and white. Some of the body hairs very much clongated
	Colour entirely red 3.
3.	Body hairs uniform, short, plumose. Front tarsus twice as long as high. A. wyandrae Hirst, 1928.
	Body hairs of two distinct types 4.
4.	Longer body hairs more clavate apieally, axial thread thicker; shorter hairs more tapering apieally
	Longer body hairs less clavate apically, the hairlets longer near the base, stalk apparently shorter; short hairs not tapering apically. A. terrae-reginae Hirst, 1929.

Allothrombium delicatulum Womersley, 1934.

This small species is moderately abundant under loose stones, fallen branches and even on tree trunks in the National Park, Belair, South Australia.

Allothrombium guttatum Hirst, 1928.

= Allothrombium guttatum Hirst, 1928. Allothrombium ornatum Hirst, 1928. Allothrombium guttatum Womersley, 1934.

I have no further records of this species since my earlier papers.

Allothrombium antipodianum Hirst, 1926.

= Allothrombium antipodianum Hirst, 1926.

Allothrombium antipodianum v. olorinum Hirst, 1926.

Allothrombium parvulum Hirst, 1929.

Allothrombium? wasseli Hirst, 1931.

Allothrombium antipodianum Womersley, 1934.

I have no further records of this species. The species A. wasseli described posthumously by Hirst appears to be identical with the above form as far as one can judge by the description, the accompanying drawings of which were lost after Hirst's death.

Allothrombium terrae-reginae Hirst, 1929.

There is nothing further to add to the previously published data on this species.

Allothrombium wyandrae Hirst, 1928.

Only known from the type material from Mount Kosciusko, N.S.W.

Subfamily X, Stygothrombiinae Sig Thor, 1936.

Body small, elongate, worm-like, swollen dorsally, with only small rudimentary hairs. Cuticle thin, striated, with low papillae. Crista similarly rudimentary, narrow, anteriorly with weak areola which, near the two sensory hairs, has 4 or 5 fine hairs. Rostrum outstanding, behind flask-like, in front spoon-like, with two bristles. Mandibles long and narrow with stylet-like claw. Palpal segments weakly differentiated, fourth segment can be distinguished with the reduced fifth attached; segment II has 2 thorns and 6 long hairs, III 3 thorns and some hairs, IV with a few hairs and a long thin end claw (no accessory claw). Legs with 3 claws, the lateral combed. Species living in water.

This subfamily is entirely nuknown in Australia. It includes only the genus Stygothrombium Veitz, 1932, and its subgenus Cerberothrombium Veitz, 1934.